

# Research...

## Treatment for Herpes of the Eye

The Herpetic Eye Disease Study is an example of a Phase III treatment clinical trial. Herpes of the eye, which is controllable but incurable, can produce a painful sore on the eyelid and inflammation of the cornea, the transparent tissue on the surface of the eye. Previous studies showed that once people develop ocular herpes, they have up to a 50 percent chance of having a recurrence. In one part of the Herpetic Eye Disease Study, researchers followed 703 patients who had herpes of the eye during the preceding year, but did not currently have an active case of the disease. Of this number, 357 were treated with the antiviral drug acyclovir taken by mouth, and 346 received a placebo. Results: Scientists found that acyclovir reduced by 41 percent the probability that herpes of the eye would return. The findings from this research have helped to change how doctors treat the disease.

## Evaluation and Treatment of Pediatric, Developmental, and Genetic Eye Diseases Sponsored by National Eye Institute (NEI)

This study will evaluate and treat children or adults with inherited or developmental eye conditions. It will allow specialists in pediatric ophthalmology, genetic ophthalmology, and ocular motility at the National Eye Institute (NEI) to learn more about the course of various pediatric, genetic, developmental, and eye movement diseases thorough long-term observation and treatment. It will also serve as the first step in determining the eligibility of patients who may wish to enroll in other NEI clinical research studies or undergo standard eye treatments. Children with eye conditions, especially inherited or developmental conditions, and adults with eye disorders that began in childhood or that likely have a genetic or developmental component may be eligible for this study. To find out more about this study contact: National Eye Institute (NEI), 9000 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Maryland, 20892, Patient Recruitment and Public Liaison Office 1-800-411-1222 prpl@mail.cc.nih.gov TTY 1-866-411-1010

To learn more about studies and clinical trials related to vision diseases and disorders go to:  
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